

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 LONDON 05210 041157Z
ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00
ICAE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03
NSAE-00 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ACDA-12 /086 W
-----099729 041159Z /10

O P 041148Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4765
INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
AMEMBASSY NICOSIA
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

S E C R E T LONDON 05210

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1
TAGS: UNSC, MARR, XF, IS, LE, UK
SUBJECT: CONSIDERATION OF USING TYRE AS UNIFIL ENTREPOT

REF: A) STATE 84729; B) LONDON 5197

1. TEMPLE, FCO DESK OFFICER FOR LEBANON, ON APRIL 4
AMPLIFIED UK POSITION REGARDING OUR REQUEST IN REFTEL
A AS FOLLOWS: UK ENVISAGES TRANSPORTATION OF SUPPLIES
TO LEBANON AS BEING IN UN HANDS, BUT UK WOULD BE HAPPY
TO LOAD AND UNLOAD VESSELS FOR THE UN IN THE AKROTIRI
BASE AREA AND WOULD ALSO BE HAPPY TO CHARTER SUITABLE
VESSELS FOR THE UN IF LATTER DESIRES.

2. WITH RESPECT TO TYRE, TEMPLE SAID UK DOUBTS IT
WOULD PRESENTLY BE FEASIBLE TO USE IT AS EITHER HQ OR
LOGISTICS BASE. UK UNDERSTANDS DAMAGE TO PORT CAUSED
BY THE FIGHTING COULD NECESSITATE SOME REPAIRS BEFORE
SECRET

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IT COULD BECOME USABLE. BRITISH DEFENSE ATTACHE IN
BEIRUT VISITED TYRE RECENTLY AND REPORTED TWO SHIPS
HAD BEEN SUNK IN THE HARBOR.

3. COMMENT: PRESS GUIDANCE FOR INITIAL BRITISH
ANNOUNCEMENT REGARDING ITS LOGISTICAL SUPPORT FOR UNIFIL
SPECIFIED, "WE SHALL NOT PROVIDE ANY LOGISTIC SUPPORT

WITHIN SOUTH LEBANON. WE BELIEVE SHIPS OR AIRCRAFT TO FERRY MATERIAL OR MEN TO THE LEBANON SHOULD BE PROVIDED BY OTHER MEMBER STATES" (LONDON 4573). THIS LATEST BRITISH OFFER TO CHARTER SHIPS FOR THE UN IS SOMEWHAT MORE FORTHCOMING. THE ROYAL NAVY NOW NORMALLY HAS VERY FEW VESSELS IN THE MEDITERRANEAN, PARTICULARLY THE EASTERN MED.

4. WE UNDERSTAND THAT UN HEADQUARTERS HAS APPROVED ESTABLISHING UNIFIL HEADQUARTERS IN ZAHRANI, AND WE BELIEVE IT WOULD BE USEFUL IN PURSUING THIS EXCHANGE TO INFORM BRITISH OF STATUS OF PORT FACILITIES THERE. MOBIL OIL OR ARAMCO GOVERNMENT RELATIONS DEPT SHOULD BE A GOOD SOURCE.

BREWSTER

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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TAGS: MARR, EWWT, XF, IS, LE, UK, UNSC
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